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Jane E. Henney M.D.  
Commissioner  
US Food & Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

11 January 2001

Dear Commissioner Henney:

As a retired Biology teacher, I am very concerned about the direction we are moving with our use of antibiotics. We already have drug resistant bacteria, and I'm sure you know the problem is expected to get much worse. I would not like to see the day when our antibiotics no longer work on major diseases, especially with increasingly crowded populations in our world.

It would be shortsighted of us to wait for a disaster before we took action to prevent such a problem. I would urge you to work towards reducing our antibiotic use, starting with collecting and reporting data on the quantity of antibiotics used by agriculture. The public is capable of understanding this issue. It is one I have taught to my inner city classes and Special Ed classes for years, so I know it's not beyond the comprehension of the general public. The "minor" incidents we have had will give the public impetus for supporting the reduction of antibiotic use.

Sincerely,

*E. Ah-li Monahan*  
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